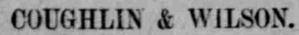
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Characterizes the production of PRINCESS flour, giving it pre-eminence among the high-est grade food products.

AMUSEMENTS.

Sarah Bernhardt as She Is. French actors left New Orleans Saturday night after the performance in that city, ling a bicycle, she may persuade her-

on the credulity of rural residents and have

Again, taking his cue from the New York ding out that the public should not figure of a girl of nineteen. One enthusidivine Sarah may have no remedy to stay the hand of Time, but she certainly has been able to defy its visible tracks." While Berns the first time she was ever credited wi making Father Time feel so gay that he sot up and walked on his hands.

well as actress, and her performance in "Izeyi" to-night will be much enjoyed by Indianapolis stage lovers. No better analysis of her disposition and character has been printed than the recent article by Dr. Edgar llowing excerpt from Dr. Beall's article will be not only interesting, but a valuab dex for those who expect to witness Bernhardt in this cityn

All the world now well knows that Sarah nhardt is a consummate actress, a pheomenal artist-a genlus-with a personality ost charming and unique. In delineating her character, therefore, the phrenologist is not called upon to say so much about what she is as to point out the specific physica and mental qualities which have determined her wonderful career. So far as the groundwork of her character is concerned, it would be difficult to find or imagine a more feminine woman. However, she possessed many elements of femininity in a very exaggerated orm. This explains her genius as an artist. Masculinity is expressed in angles; feminin ity in curves. The male mentally is positive mathematical, scientific, exact; the female nd is more indefinite, suggestive, intuitive, dealistic, emotional. As it is the province of masculinity to deal with law and restraintthat is, to build the trellis-it remains for the feminine principle to adorn and glorify with the foliage and fruit of liberty and love. Art exists for itself, for beauty and joy. either gives nor knows a raison d'etre. Its find a great deal of artistic instinct in women, and a great deal of femininity in Both generally have rounded willowy agures, yielding or elastic fiber, and supersensitive condition of the brain and he entire nervous system. And, although the artistic principle may inhere in people of dark complexion, hair and eyes, when we think of the most typically artistic temperament we think first of a blonde. All this is exemplified in the great French tragedienne. She is a most probounced blonde, with very white skin, light golden hair and blue eyes.

Her hand is an interesting study. It is nearer the conic type than any of the other forms usually classified by cheirosophical authers, but it ought to be called an ideal feminine hand. It is very symmetrical, velvety and flexible, and free from any suggestion of attenuation, such as the public has been accustomed to associate with the figure of the actress. The joints of the fingers have the smoothness which denotes a lack of order, the tendency to be governed by impressions rather than reason, and many other qualities characteristic of poets, singers and actors. Her temperament would serve as a model he brain with all its minutely ramifying flaments that extend to the remotest regions of the body. It is difficult to think of her as naving anything so hard and commo as bones and muscles. To observe the ser-pentine grace of her movements one might Ilmost fancy that her vertebrae were com-

The principal signs of are delicate, white skin, sharp features, great vivacity of expression, a narrow lower face, broad forehead, with fine suburn, golden or very light brown hair. The most impertant indication is probably a disproporpari of the face. It may often be distinguished also by teeth relatively long, or pointed, sharp edged, pearl blue or very white and inclined to translucency. In our present subject, however, it is shown in the hair and eyes and in the extraordinarily fine texture of the whole organization, rather

than in any structural disproportion, indeed, her features are fairly symmetrical—
with the exception of her nose, which is
very prominent for so sensitive a person
—and of late years she has quite redeemed
herself from the imputation of being unaesthetically slim.

The mental characteristics of the nervous
temperament are chiefly a predominance of
sentiment over reason; extrama sensibility

sentiment over reason; extreme sensibility, electrical emotions, impatience, easily wounded vanity, brilliancy of intellect with out logic; imagination, inaccuracy in estimating motives, but with abundant wit, fondness for music and the capacity for a high degree of culture on the lines of literature, art and religion. The principal faults of this temperament are exaggeration in the sphere of feeling, and incoherency in judgment. Its conspicuous virtues are exquisite idealism, beauty of character, refinement, conversational talent, literary and artistic taste. These qualities, possibly with one or two exceptions, are possessed by Sarah sentiment over reason; extreme sensibility taste. These qualities, possibly with one of two exceptions, are possessed by Sarah Bernhardt in a remarkable degree. Everybody has heard of her eccentricities, and though we dare not believe all that is said of her, it is not unlikely that she may have made pets of snakes and indulged in occasional siestas in her coffin. Her life has certainly covered a great variety of experiences.

ences.

Her brain is much more remarkable for activity than size, although it is also above the average in volume. Her head measures twenty-one and three-quarters inches in circumference, and the crown is unusually high. Those parts of the brain lying in the occiput, or back head, are quite large. She has strong social feelings, though not the most constant attachments for people to whom she is not bound by ties of blood. Her love is ardent, but far from being a dominant element, and her eyelids are rather too flat for a high order of conjugal fidelity. It is easy to think of her as making mistakes where the opposite sex is concerned. She would naturally act upon impulse in affairs of the heart, and would seldom realize her ideals. She once told a friend of the writer that love in her life had always been a chase after a rainbow. Perhaps this is one of the

after a rainbow. Perhaps this is one of the penalties of genius. But she has one form of affection which is very characteristic of artists. She is exeedingly devoted as a mother. Upon hearing this announced as an exceptional trait in her character, she suddenly exclaimed with all the impetuous fervor of a true Frenchwoman, "J'adore les enfants!"

Her top head on a line with the ear is very high. This denotes great determina-tion, and with her temperament, willfulness and probably obstinacy. She is headstrong and pertinacious. But as she is subject to so many caprices she could hardly be called firm. Continuity, which lies in the upper part of the back head, is quite deficient; and as her temperament is unfavorable to patience we may be sure that nothing could be further from her nature than prolixity No one will doubt this who has ever seen her play. Her firmness being large and continuity small, she persists in her purposes, but indulges in a great variety of methods. She resists opposition in any form, but allows her own forces to scatter as soon as the enemy retires from the field. Her energy and executive force are also largely due to the faculty of courage. She has little, head, vouches for her combativeness and

od material for phrenological history, for there could scarcely be a greater endowment of it in a sane human being. It is revealed in the great fullness of the outer rear top head, and also in the confirmed habit she has of raising the upper lip. To say she is ambitious expresses but feebly the intensity of her desire to succeed. To her credit we must also say that she has striven for artistic excellence as well as glory. tistic excellence as well as glory.

Dignity is moderate. Her manners are as mple as those of a child. Caution and cun-ing are also subordinate. She is very sponneous and frank. . . Conscientiousness does not rank among he nant motives. In matters of conduct sh generous to a fault with her intimates, alnagination rather than upon the specific worship would be quite foreign to the norma bent of her mind. Ideality is very large, and in her temperament it is almost insatiable in its demands for beauty and perfection. Her forehead is well balanced and presents a good development in the regions of both perception and reflection. She appre-ciates both practice and theory. She will ob-serve the tiniest objects with the precision and remember the forms of things is prob width between the eyeballs. Memory of form is essential to all artists, and is a talent quite common among the French. Mme. Bernhard

Joseph Jefferson and many others in her pro-fession the reputation of being a fine painter. Her forehead is wide at the temples. This signifies mechanical ingenuity and love of music. She has a large stock of ideas as well as sensations, and for the most part she does her own thinking. She is also mirthful But what is the secret of her power as a actress? First of all, she is a woman of all the roles of tragedy and comedy in her own life before setting foot on the mimic stage. Like Rachel, Duse, Salvini, Clara Morris, Janauschek, the Booths and many her heartstrings were thrilled in her youth by actual scenes of grief and joy, so that as a player she has but to awaken the memories of emotions that once were real. in her sensitive brain all experiences are registered as in a book. A simple suggestion a mere glance will recall them. Under the

stimulus of a dramatic situation her own life rises before her mental vision, and then she needs only to abandon herself to the speech and action of the play to hold the mirror up to nature in very truth. atic success," is the way Leander Richwrites of De Wolf Hopper's new opera, by Sousa and Klein. As to the music of Sousa, Mr. Richardson says: "Sousa has composed a great deal of real melody. The finale of the second act, which is of a strictly martial

nature, created great enthusiasm, and it is a splendid piece of work. While here and there a familiar strain runs through the opera, Mr. Sousa has shown much originality, and while the airs may not all be whis-tled on the street many of them are catchy and linger upon the ear. Indeed, there is a spirit to the score throughout that is dis-"Thoroughbred," a comedy in three acts, by Ralph Lumley, was presented at the

New York Garrick last Monday evening under the auspices of Charles Frohman, with a strong cast, including Henry E. Dixey. Blanche Walsh has been engaged for the Casino summer production of "In Gay New York," Canary & Lederer's new burlesque.

A popular production is Charles Hoyt's spectacular musical military comedy, "A Milk White Flag," which ran all last season at Hoyt's Theater in New York city, and also ran over 100 nights in Chicago. The author has seized with ready wit upon the many opportunities for twitting amateur soldiers, and the lines, which are well known here, are very bright. The play is pretty certain to be received with the customary favor at the Grand Wednesday and

Thursday nights. All the old favorites in the cast remain. "Little Trixie," at the Park to-day, is an agreeable and lively conceit, and is adequately performed by a well-trained com-pany, led by May Smith Robbins. "Little Trixie" remains three days, and is to be followed by "The Midnight Special."

"The production of "The Prisoner of Zenthe Grand Opera House next week, requires forty people for the stage representation and as many more behind the scenes. In his triple role as prince, king and civilian Mr. Sothern is credited with the success of his career thus far, and in the admirable stage settings, properties and artistic groupings he has won great honor as a stage director. The five scenes of the play are spoken of as rich, effective and impressive. Sothern will close the Grand's season brilliantly.

Tony Pastor comes to the Grand next Sat-

Great Possibilities.

Mr. Cullom's idea of scented postage stamps may be ridiculed, but there are great sibilities of stamp flirtation in vanilla, strawberry, orange, lemon and mint brands of stamps, to say nothing of their detective value in disclosing forgotten unmailed let-

ITS FULL HISTORY TOLD YESTER-

Evolution from Small Body of Ministers to a Delegate Body, with Nearly Half Laymen Membership.

Rev. Henry A. Butchtel, of Central-evenue M. E. Church, yesterday delivered a sermot on the evolution of the General Conference, which is reproduced in full below:

"Lord Macaulay was pleased to say that John Wesley had a genius for government equal to that of Richelleu. An equally high authority has declared that he had a genius for religion. These estimates of Mr. Wesley are now universally conceded to be accurate

"The peculiar institution in Methodism called 'the conference' took its rise in Mr. Wesley's remarkable faculty for uniting government and religion. By the order of providence many ministers and people were attracted to Mr. Wesley as a guide and leader in matters of religion. Without any planning on his own part, but simply by the strength and transparency of his personal piety, ministers and people were drawn to him.

"The people so attracted by him were cemented together in an organization known as 'the United Societies.' The first of these societies was organized by him in London in the latter part of the year 1739. Ten years the latter part of the year 1739. Ten years before this, in 1729, he had come to see from before this, in 1729, he had come to see from the study of the Bible that no one can be saved without holiness, and in 1738, on Wednesday. May 24, he was happily brought into the experience of conscious personal salvation. At 5 o'clock in the morning of that day he opened his Testament on the words There are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises. In the after-noon he went to St. Paul's Cathedral, where he heard in the anthem for the day these words: 'Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord ——. O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy, and with Him is plenteous redemption. And He shall redeem Israel from all his sins.' "That evening with a heavy heart he went

very unwillingly to a Moravian society meeting in Aldersgate street, where some one was reading Luther's preface to the Epistle to the Romans. Mr. Wesley describes what happened in these words: 'About a quarter before 9 while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ I felt my heart strangely warmed. I feit I did trust in Christ, Christ aione for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and

"Mr. Wesley at once began to pray earnestly for his enemies and publicly testified to what he then fe't. He was much tempted made to rejoice in permanent victory. brother Charles, who had been converted 'Towards 10 my brother was brought in triumph by a troop of our friends and de-clared, "I believe." We sang the hymn with joy and parted with prayer.' The was one Charles Wesley had composed the previous day on his own conver-

WESLEY'S FIRST CONFERENCE. "Thus at the age of thirty-five Mr. Wes ley came into the experience of salvation And at the age of thirty-six, in 1739, he was thrust out as the leader of that great reover the whole world and will always be associated with his name. Regular clergymen of the Church of England were associated leemed it wise to invite them to meet his in conference. His first 'yearly conference' began June 25, 1744. From that time until his death on March 2, 1791, when in his

eighty-eighth year, he held conferences annually, making forty-seven in all.

"Wesley's first conference, in 1744, continued in session for five days. It was held in the Foundry in London. It consisted of six ministers of the state church, namely, long Wesley Charles Wesley John Wesley, Charles Wesley, John Hodges, rector of Wenro; Henry Piers, vicar of Bexley; Samuel Taylor, vicar of Quinton, and John Meriton, of the Isle of Man. Four lay preachers were present: Thomas Maxfield, Thomas Richards, John Sennet and John Downes. The day before gious service was held, with sermon and ove-feast, and the holy communion was administered by these six clergymen to the whole body of Mr. Wesley's followers in London, then numbering in that city be-tween two and three thousand. The conference proper was opened with prayer and a sermon by Charles Wesley, and the bapism of a man who was converted in the

of the sacraments Mr. Wesley made. In this first conference Mr. Wesley introduced tions and answers. That method has pre-vailed ever since in all quarterly and all annual conferences of Methodism over the whole world. Mr. Wesley opened the pro-ceedings with this introduction: "'It is desired that all things be consid

children, who have everything to learn; that every point which is proposed may be examined to the foundation; that every person may speak freely whatever is in his heart, and that every question which may arise should be thoroughly debated and set-

What are we afraid of? Of overthrowing "A.—If they are false, the sooner they are everturned the better. If they are true, they will bear the strictest examination. Let us all pray for a willingness to receive light, to know of every doctrine whether it be of 'Q.-How may the time of the conference

be made more eminently a time of watch ardson, in the New York Dramatic News, an especial care to set God always before us. In the intermediate hours let us visit none but the sick, and spend all the time that remains in retirement. Let us therein give ourselves to prayer for one another and for a blessing upon our labor.
"Q.—How far does each of us agree to

submit to the judgment of the majority?

"'A.—In speculative things each can only submit so far as his judgment shall be con vinced. In every practical point each will submit so far as he can without wounding "'Q .- Can a Christian submit any farther than this to any man or any number of men

upon earth?
"'A.—It is undeniably certain he cannot either to Bishop, convocation or genera "And this is that grand principle of private judgment on which all the reformers proceeded. Every man must judge for him-self, because every man must give an ac-count of himself to God.

MR. WESLEY'S QUESTIONS. "In a subsequent report of this first conference Mr. Wesley stated that he wanted every question proposed to be fully debated and 'bolted to the bran.'

"Bo everything concerning the ministry. the membership, the benevolence, and the cause of education was considered point by point, as in the presence of God, and due record made of everything at the time. "In all this we can see how Wesley asso-

clated government and religion together. and a time for full and free discussion upon all matters of adapting their teaching and their work to the people whom God would "During Mr. Wesley's life he was the su preme head of the new church. He governed the preachers and the people in wisdom that practically no one rebelled against his authority. Since his death the British conference with its legal hundred

members, a self-perpetuating body, meeting

every year, has governed the church in En-

THE AMERICAN CONFERENCE. "I now come to tell you briefly the story of the development of the governing conference in this country. In our country the work of Methodism took its rise in 1766. It is true that Mr. Wesley had been a missionary in Georgia for two years-that is, during 1736 and 1737-but we do not count that, as Mr. Wesley did not come into personal experience of salvation until after his return to England in 1738. It is also true That George Whitefield had traversed the entire Atlantic coast as a flaming evangelist, but and established churches.

New York city. He formed a society, which continues to this day, known as the Johnstreet Church. At the same time Robert Strawbridge, also a local preacher from Ireland, began preaching in Frederick county,

and Joseph Pilmoor. In 1771 he sent two other preachers—Francis Asbury and Richard Wright. Francis Asbury was soon recognized as the most apostolic and the strongest of the Wesleyan itinerants. In June of 1773 the first conference of the preachers was held in Philadelphia. These conferences were regularly held each year until the year 1784, when the Methodist Episcopal Church was formally organized at Christmas time in Baltimore. This was eighteen years after the first meetings were held by the local preachers, and fifteen years after the arrival of Mr. Wesley's first missionaries, and thirteen years after the arrival of Francis Asbury, who was destined to become the most powerful figure in the new movement.

"It was in 1784, when Mr. Wesley was eighty-one years of age, that he signed the deed of declaration by which the British conference in England should become the governing body in English Methodism after his decease.

"He next turned his attention to his spir-

"He next turned his attention to his spir-itual children in America, and at once began

"He next turned his attention to his spiritual children in America, and at once began to arrange for the permanency of the work by making his plan for the organization of an episcopal church to be known as the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Methodist preachers in America had not administered the sacraments up to that time, except in a few instances among the Southern preachers. The war of the revolution was just over and peace had been declared.

"Mr. Wesley had long held that bishops and presbyters or elders were the same clerical order, and that he had as much right to ordain ministers as any bishop in any church. This opinion has been held in our own day by such candid and scholarly ecclesiastics in the English church as Bishop Lightfoot and Dean Stanley. Mr. Wesley's position was that the New Testament shows us two orders in the ministry; namely, deacons and elders, and that a bishop is an elder who is first among his equals.

"Accordingly Mr. Wesley took steps to ordain ministers who should come to America to administer the sacraments and also to dain ministers who should come to America to administer the sacraments and also to ordain the ministers already in America that they might administer the sacraments. He also provided for the organization of a church with episcopal form of government So, on Sept. 1, 1784, Mr. Wesley ordained Richard Whatcoat and Thomas Vasey as deacons and then as elders and presbyters, being himself a presbyter in the Church of England, and being assisted in the ordination services by Thomas Coke, LL. D., and James Creighton, both of whom were presbyters or elders in the Church of England. On the next day, Sept. 2, 1784, Mr. Wesley set apart Dr. Coke to the office of superintendent or bishop, who was sent to preside over the flock of Christ in the new episcopal church which was to be organized in the United States of America.

DR. COKE'S AUTHORITY.

DR. COKE'S AUTHORITY. "Mr. Wesley's testimonial letter was as follows: 'To all to whom these presents shall come, John Wesley, late fellow of Lincoln College in Oxford, presbyter of the Church of England, sendeth greeting:

"Whereas, Many of the people in the southern provinces of North America who desire to continue under my care, and still adhere to the doctrine and discipline of the Church of England, are greatly distressed and whereas there does not appear to be any other way of supplying them with min

"'Know all men that I, John Wesley, think myself to be providentially called at this me to set apart some persons for the werk of the ministry in America; and, therefore under the protection of Almighty God, and with a single eye to His glory. I have this day set apart as a superintendent, by the imposition of my hands and prayer (being assisted by other ordained ministers).
Thomas Coke, doctor of civic law, a presbyter of the Church of England, and a man whom I judge to be well qualified for that work. And I do hereby recommend him to all whom it may concern as a fit person to preside over the flock of Christ.

"In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 2d day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four. "'JOHN WESLEY.'

North America' he describes the part not un-der British control; that is, the United States. Mr. Wesley prepared also a regular service book from the English Book of Common Prayer, which was called 'The Sunday Service of the Methodists in North America,' and was printed in London in 1784, and brought over to this country by Dr. Coke, whom Mr. Wesley had consecrated as our first superintendent or hishop. Mr. Wesley sent with Dr. Coke a circular which should be suited to the new conditions of life in the be suited to the new conditions of life in the United States. That letter is as follows: LETTER TO THE PEOPLE.

" 'Bristol, Sept. 10, 1784. 'To Dr. Coke, Mr. Asbury and Our Brethren in North America:

"1. By a very uncommon train of provi-dences, many of the provinces of North America are totally disjoined from their mother country, and erected into independ-ent states. The English government has no authority over them, either civil or ecclesi astical, any more than over the states of Holland. A civil authority is exercised over ity at all. In this peculiar situation, some thousands of the inhabitants of these states desire my advice, and, in compliance with their desire, I have drawn up a little sketch. "2. Lord King's "Account of the Primitive Church" convinced me many years ago that shops and presbyters are the same order and, consequently, have the same right to ordain. For many years I have been importuned, from time to time, to exercise this right by ordaining part of our traveling preachers, but I have still refused, not only for peace's sake, but because I was deter ned as little as possible to violate the established order of the national church, to which I belonged.

parish ministers, so that for some hundred miles together there is none either to baptize or to administer the Lord's supper. Here, therefore, my scruples are at an end, and I conceive myself at full liberty, as I violate no order and invade no man's right by appointing and sending laborers into the

Coke and Mr. Francis Asbury to be joint su-Thomas Vasey to act as elders among them, by baptizing and administering the Lord's supper. And I have prepared a liturgy little differing from that of the Church of England (I think the best-constituted national church in the world), which I advise all the traveling preachers to use on the Lord's day, in all the congregations, reading the Litany only on Wednesdays and Fridays, and praying extempore on all other days. I also advise the elders to administer the supper of the Lord on every Lord's day.

"5. If any one will point out a more rational and property. tional and scriptural way of feeding and guiding those poor sheep in the wilderness I will gladly embrace it. At present I can not see any better method than that I have

"6. It has, indeed, been proposed to desire the English bishops to ordain part of our preachers for America. But to this I object (1) I desired the bishop of London to ordain only one, but could not prevail. (2) If they consented we know the slowness of their proceedings, but the matter admits of no lelay. (3) If they should ordain them now they would likewise expect to govern them; and how grievously this would entangle us! (4) As our American brethren are now totally disentangled, both from the state and from the English hierarchy, we dare not entangle them again either with the one or the other. They are now at full liberty to follow the Scriptures and the primliberty to follow the scriptor is the state that they itive church, and we judge it best that they should stand fast in that liberty wherewith God has so strangely made them free.

"JOHN WESLEY."

DR. COKE IN AMERICA. "Mr. Wesley had ordained Richard Whatcoat and Thomas Vasey on the 1st of September, at Bristol. On the 2d of September he consecrated Dr. Coke as superintendent or bishop. The preface to the service book was written Sept. 9, and the foregoing circular letter was written on Sept. 10. On the 18th of September Dr. Coke and his associates set sail for America, landing at New York on the 3d of November, 1784.

Francis Asbury, whom Mr. Wesley had chosen as the other superintendent or bishop. They met at a religious service at Barratt's Chapel, near Frederica, in Delaware, on Sunday, Nov. 14, 1784. There were then it if our real life roots are in Jesus Christ eighty-three preachers and 15,000 members in eternal. There are times when the unchange-the Methodist societies in America. "It was agreed to call a conference of al the preachers at Baltimore, to meet on Christmas eve for the purpose of organizing an independent episcopal church to be known as the Methodist Episcopal Church. Freeborn Garrettson was sent out as an arrow to travel north and south and send mesages to right and left.

Coke to travel a thousand miles on a preaching tour on his way to Baltimore. Asbury himself went on his regular tour, also toward vened Asbury felt that he could not accept the appointment of superintendent or bishop "In 1765 Philip Embury, a Wesley in local treacher from Ireland, began to preach in New York city. He formed a society, which continues to this day, known as the Laboratory of the lands of Mr. Wesley without an election to the office by the preachers whom he government among the Methodists in Amer-

career with this Christmas conference in 1784. Next follows a period of intense evangelism in which the preachers were too busy to think about a general conference, but meeting regularly in the annual conferences

in different parts of the country. In the edi-tion of the Discipline published in 1787 the word 'bishop' occurs for the first time to de-scribe the office of general superintendent. To this day we use these words as syno-nyms. The bishops are the general superin-tendents of the church. This is exactly the New Testament idea of the office of a bish-on.

"The second General Conference was held in Baltimore in November of 1792, eight years after the formal organization of the years after the formal organization of the church. It was composed of all the traveling preachers in the connection. It was agreed to hold a General Conference every four years, and that all legislation should be reserved to the General Conference. The power to appoint presiding elders and preachers was confirmed in the bishops. Presiding elders were limited to four years on the same district. Bishops Coke and Asbury presided.

on the same district. Bishops Coke and Asbury presided.

"The third General Conference was held in Baltimore in October, 1796, Bishops Coke and Asbury presiding, The fourth General Conference was held in Baltimore in May, 1800. Coke and Asbury presided. Richard Whatcoat was elected bishop, as Coke was to return to Europe. The question of electing presiding elders and so of limiting the power of the bishops was warmly debated. The motion to elect presiding elders was lost. The motion for a delegated General Conference was lost. But membership in the General Conference was restricted to those ministers who had traveled four years.

THE FIRST TIME-LIMIT. "The fifth General Conference convened in Baltimore in May, 1804. Coke, Asbury and Whatcoat presided. A motion to abolish the presiding eldership was lost. The first time-limit rule for a preacher was made, and the time during which a preacher might remain in the same charge was now fixed at two years. Before this there had been no limit for a preacher, but only for a presiding elder. Coke was given leave to return to Europe.

"The sixth General Conference convened in Baltimore in May, 1808. The session was opened by the apostolic Asbury. Whatcoat had died and Coke was in Europe. William McKendree was elected bishop. Again a motion to elect presiding elders was made

"A delegated General Conference was provided for and the restrictive rules were adopted. The whole body of the ministry met in General Conference for the last time. They retained some control of the delegated General Conference, however, by the restrictive rules, which make it impossible to enact legislation affecting the fundamental constitution of the church with damental constitution of the church with-out securing the consent of three-fourths of all the members of the annual confer-

"In May, 1812, the first delegated General Conference was held in New York city. Bishops Asbury and McKendree presided. Again a motion to elect presiding elders was lost. In May, 1816, the second delegated General Conference was held in Baltimore. Asbury had died on March 31 of that year. McKendree opened the conference was held in Baltimore. ence. Enoch George and Robert R. Rob-erts were elected bishops. "In May, 1820, the third delegated General Conference was held in Baltimore. McKendree, George and Roberts presided. Joshua Soule was elected bishop. A lengthy debate on elective presiding eldership was held, and the measure was finally carried. But Joshua Soule would not accept the episcopal office on that basis, so the rule for an elecive presiding eldership was suspended for

ral Conference was held in Baltimore. Kendree, George and Roberts presided. A aken action against the suspended rule for pension was continued until 1828. Joshua Soule and Elijah Hedding were chosen bishops. Lay delegation was decided to be

eral Conference was held in Pittsburg. Mc-Kendree, George, Roberts, Soule and Hedding were the bishops presiding. The resolutions for elective presiding eldership were THE NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE.

the twenty-second delegated General Conat Cleveland, O. Eighteen bishops will be present, including the two missionary bishops whose jurisdiction as bishops limited to the fields of Africa and India. Delegates will be present from about 125 annual conferences, and the number of dele-337 ministers more than half, namely, 176, are presiding elders, 90 are pastors, 32 are college presidents and professors; 22 are church officials elected by the General Conference, and 17 are persons in semi-official relations. "The laymen represent well night all hon-orable vocations. Laymen were admitted as delegates to the General Conference in 1872. In 1860, twelve years previously, the min-isters in the General Conference had voted that they were ready and eager to admit as the church desired it.

"The question was sent down for an ex-ression of the mind of the church. The male members of the church voted against voted against it by a greater majority.
"This action was officially reported to the General Conference of 1864 when that body

again expressed sympathy with the proposi-tion to have laymen as delegates to the leg-islative body of the church. In 1868 the question was again sent down, and this time was approved by the requisite three-fourths vote of all the ministers of the annual confer-Accordingly, in 1872, the laymen were

equal. This will, of course, be accomplished polity of a great church are always made slowly. It is well that it is so." Dr. Buchtel then continued with a talk on the probable changes in the general rules of the church in the future, and closed with a

had 435 members and now has 930. He spoke During the first thirteen years of the existence of this church the collections for benevolent purposes averaged \$605 a year, while for the last five years the average has been \$1,645.

DR. RONDTHALER'S FAREWELL.

The Much-Beloved Pastor Preaches His Last Sermon at the Tabernacle. Dr. J. A. Rondthaler preached his farewell sermon yesterday to the congregation of Tabernacle Church. The house was crowded, and the pastor's last words were listened to with closest interest. The text selected was from Hebrews xiii, 18: "Pray for us; for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live hon-

After an analysis of the text, dwelling upon the leadership of Christ in the history of the past and His power in the present with the character of Christ as the hope of the future, Dr. Rondthaler continued with reference to the separation of pastor and people. He said:

"So we anchor our faith in the Christ of vesterday and with ardent love embrace the Christ of to-day, and with eager hope wait for the Christ of to-morrow. I have striven most earnestly, dear friends, to make my ministry the preaching of this Christ in the past, the present and the future. It has been the aim to preach the ospel of optimism of the Christ that is ever saying: 'Let not your hearts be trou-bled.' On the last Sunday of our association as pastor and people I preach to you once more of the Christ who came to bring life and immortality to light, a larger life in the associations of present existence and the glory of immortality beyond.

"'I go to prepare a place for you,' Christ said. Here our places are continually chang-ing. We put down our roots and then they are wrenched out of the kindly earth of love and we must transplant them elsewhere. Sometimes they take hold again and grow, and sometimes they do not. What matters eternal. There are times when the unchange ableness of Christ is the stay of our faith the comfort of our hearts and the joy of our hat they may be made perfect in one. Whatever in our associations in past years has been Christ-created and nurtured will abide. The mutual love that He has inpreathed and fostered is an eternal love, so fter all we will retain the best and purestruit of our fellowship during these years. In Jesus Christ there are no finite friend ships. They who strike hands under the Whatever Christ-centered principles of life we have learned by our mutual study of God's word will abide. Much that has been said during these associations will be forgot ten. It is good that it should be. Nothing

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will perish. It will not be labeled with any human name. It is better that it should not be, but it will have the stamp of divinity and living in the same house told Dr. Garshwil Whatever higher views of life have come from the effects of the drug, the in this life and that which is to come I will repeat the Christly things you have done for me and the Christ-inspired words you have said. And so we separate, but do not part. We put a little distance of the BRIGHT CROP PROSPECT. the Rains Did. The Indiana Section, Climate and Crop

but in Christian fellowship there is no diealize the unity of the Christian faith. We prayer of Paul to the Ephesians: 'For hole family in heaven and earth is named; might by His spirit in the inner man; that Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height, and to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God. Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abun-dantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the church of Christ lesus through all ages, world without end,

After the sermon eighteen people were received into the church and the ordinance of baptism was administered to six infants. mong those taken into the church was Harry Nicoli, who was the first infant bapmember of the church, commenting yester-day on the popularity of Dr. Rondthaler, said: "It is not alone in our church that he will be missed. We hear expressions of regret all over the city and from all con-gregations. His popularity is remarkable, and it has seemed that he was known and oved by all races and all colors in Indian-

committee of the congregation, consisting William C. Hall, John C. Ingram, William Elim, Mrs. B. D. Walcott and Mrs. D. L. Whittier, and presented to Mr. Rondthaler

the deepest regret that we contemplate the dissolution of the happy relations of paster and people that have existed for the past eleven and a half years. We had hoped that your decision to remain, made some weeks thetic request that we have given our assent to express adequately the thoughts of our hearts toward you. When our church was weak, discouraged and struggling you took charge of it with confidence and hope, and bor wou have, in the providence of God, brought it to the foremost place in this State. Under your care the church has, year by year, steadily grown, and every auxiliary in the work has felt the impulse of your enthusiasm, often in hours of dis-couragement and trial.
"With unfiagging devotion, you have

striven to edify the membership of church and to persuade the unsaved to accept the offer of eternal life. In your pulpit utterances, your voice has been for righteousness, and when the shadows have set tled into gloom in the homes, your sympa-thetic voice has been heard there, pleading for the peace that passeth knowledge. The midweek prayer service has been a place of real refreshment to the weary tollers in secular life, and your cheerful talks have begotten new courage many times in de-

"Often when the Sunday school seemed to lag your happy optimism gave a fresh im-pulse to teachers and scholars. In the Christian Edeavor your kindly encouragement has been of great benefit to the beginners in the way of life. To the several missionsocieties you have come with hopefu words and assurances that were an inspiration to the weary but patient workers, and the children who have gathered on Friday afternoons will miss the instruction which they have so gladly received. "The success attained and the work accom-

plished by the several arms of this church are largely due to your help, and the fact that your face has been steadfastly set to-ward the front. In your individual sorrow we have a part, for you have rejoiced with us in our joys, and mourned with us in by the strongest of earthly ties sanctified by our common faith in God. We desire that you will feel this to be your home, and our doors will always be open to you when you are pleased to come to us. We pray that in the new field to which you are going Al-mighty God may abundantly bless you and your work, and that it may be given you to bring many souls into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have our redemption and the forgiveness of our sins.'

HE SAW IRVING IN SHYLOCK. How Harry Belton's Faselantion for

the Stage Began. Harry A. Beiton, of Louisville, who played in one of the theaters of this city less than two years ago under the stage name of "Belden," spoke at the men's gospel meeting at the Young Men's Christian Associa-"From Stage to Pulpit." He told in a pathetic manner the story of his conver-sion last fall and of his purpose to take a course in some theological seminary next fall. His fascination for the stage life began with seeing Sir Henry Irving in Shy-lock near his home in England when Belton was a lad of seventeen. After fourtee years on the stage he was converted in a camp-meeting in Mt. Pleasant, Ia., where ne had been drawn by the strains of music to "Throw Out the Life-line." Over two dred men listened intently to the recital of his story. The quartet of the People's Congregational Church, composed of Misses Irma Foerster and Rhea Hall and Messrs. A. M. Hall and O. T. Behymer, sang "The King of Love My Shepherd Is," by Shelley, at the opening of the meeting.

Ella Cooper's Attempt at Suicide. Ella Cooper, a young white woman living at No. 25 North New Jersey street, attempted suicide yesterday afternoon. Dr. Garsh-

woman told the physician that she had got to thinking about her home and family and grew despondent and determined to die.

Weekly Bulletin of the Bureau-What

"Good, warm rains and warm weather were very favorable to growing crops and time, rain is much needed, but, nevertheless, even there crops have improved. On the morning of the 22d light frost formed in many localities, but did no injury. "Wheat and grasses improved much and ok better than last week. Pasturage is ood, and live stock shows it. Rye continues to be in fine condition. Early-sown clover perished, but late-sown is coming up nicely. Early potatoes have been planted and some are coming up. Gats are nearly all sown, to be inferior. Fruit trees are full of bloom and also small fruit. Peach blossoms commenced dropping, and in some localities apple blossoms are less abundant than last

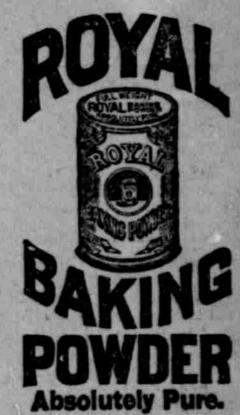
in the northern portion, because the ground is too wet. Cut-worms and clover-worms have made their appearance in great num-bers in few localities; the potato-bug also."

THEY ATE CANAL FISH.

Reported that Harry Beecher and

Wife Were Poisoned. It was reported to the City Dispensary Allegheney street, were poisoned yesterday of fish caught in the canal Friday, which were cooked and eaten yesterday. The dis-pensary physicians suppose that the fish had become partly decomposed and that the ourging and vemiting with which Mrs. Beecher was selzed was due to eating the inwholesome fish.

Sole agency Taylor gas grate. Jno. M. Lilly



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SURGEON. OFFICE-55 East Market street. Hours-9 to 10 am.; 2 to 3 p. m.; Sundays excepted. Telephone, 941. DR. REBECCA W. ROGERS.

Diseases of Women and Children. OFFICE-19 Marion Block. Office Hours-9 to 12 a.m.; 2 to 5 p. m., Tel. No. 1763. Sundays-4 to 5 p. m., at residence, 200 Broadway. Residence Tel. No. 1611. Dr. Sarah Stockton, 227 NORTH DELAWARE STREET.

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wilder, of the City Dispensary, was sum-moned, and after administering a powerful The Sanday Journal, by Hall, \$2 a Year